

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method in a data processing system for managing information, the method comprising:
 - receiving information from a plurality of users;
 - storing the information to form stored information;
 - receiving a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; [[and]]
 - responsive to receiving the request, determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction; and
 - responsive to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, removing the selected non-required information from the stored information.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a request includes:
 - determining whether the request is a valid request; and
 - preventing removing of the selected information in response to a determination that the request is an invalid request.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of a certificate, a password, and a key is used to determine whether the request is valid.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected information is personal information about the user.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the personal information includes at least one of a user name, a user identification, a password, a telephone number, an e-mail address, a physical address, a social security number, a birth date, and a credit card number.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction is a commercial transaction involving a credit card number.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request sent to the user is in a form of an applet requesting personal information about the user.
8. (Currently amended) A method in a data processing system for managing information, the method comprising:
 - sending a Web page to a user at a client;
 - receiving a response, wherein the response include the information;
 - processing a business transaction with the client using the information;
 - storing the information to form stored information;
 - receiving a request to remove the stored information;
 - determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request; and
 - removing the stored information in response to receiving the request in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the business transaction is a purchase of an item using a credit card.
11. (Original) A distributed data processing system comprising:
 - a network;
 - a plurality of clients connected to the network; and
 - a server connected to the network, wherein the server receives information from the plurality of clients in which the information is received in association with serving Web pages and receiving the information in response to serving the Web pages, stores the information to form stored information, receives a request from a client within the plurality of clients to discard a portion of the information from the stored information,

removing the portions of the information from the stored information in response to receiving the request.

12. (Currently amended) A data processing system comprising:
 - a bus system;
 - a communications unit connected to the bus system;
 - a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and
 - a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive information from a plurality of users; store the information to form stored information; receive a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction, in response to received request; and remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to receiving the request the selected information no longer being required for the transaction.
13. (Currently amended) A data processing system comprising:
 - a bus system;
 - a communications unit connected to the bus system;
 - a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and
 - a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to send a Web page to a user at a client; receive a response, wherein the response include the information; process a business transaction with the client using the information; store the information to form stored information; receive a request to remove the stored information; determine that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request; and remove the stored information in response to receiving the request in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction.

14. (Currently amended) A data processing system for managing information, the data processing system comprising:

first receiving means for receiving information from a plurality of users;
storing means for storing the information to form stored information;
second receiving means for receiving a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; [[and]]
determining means for responsive to receiving a request, determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction; and
removing means for responsive to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction receiving the request, removing the selected non-required information from the stored information.

15. (Original) The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the second receiving means includes:

means for determining whether the request is a valid request; and
means for preventing removing of the selected information in response to a determination that the request is an invalid request.

16. (Original) The data processing system of claim 14, wherein at least one of a certificate, a password, and a key is used to determine whether the request is valid.

17. (Original) The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the selected information is personal information about the user.

18. (Original) The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the personal information includes at least one of a user name, a user identification, a password, a telephone number, an e-mail address, a physical address, a social security number, a birth date, and a credit card number.

19. (Original) The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the transaction is a commercial transaction involving a credit card number.

20. (Original) The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the request sent to the user is in a form of an applet requesting personal information about the user.

21. (Currently amended) A data processing system for managing information, the data processing system comprising:

sending means for sending a Web page to a user at a client;

first receiving means for receiving a response, wherein the response include the information;

processing means for processing a business transaction with the client using the information;

storing means for storing the information to form stored information;

second receiving means for receiving a request to remove the stored information;

determining means for determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request; and

removing means for removing the stored information in response to receiving the request in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The data processing system of claim 21, wherein the business transaction is a purchase of an item using a credit card.

24. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing information, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving information from a plurality of users;

second instructions for storing the information to form stored information;

third instructions for receiving a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; [[and]]

fourth instructions, responsive to receiving the request, for determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction; and

fifth instructions, responsive to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, for removing the selected non-required information from the stored information.

25. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing information, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for sending a Web page to a user at a client;

second instructions for receiving a response, wherein the response include the information;

third instructions for processing a business transaction with the client using the information;

fourth instructions for storing the information to form stored information;

fifth instructions for receiving a request to remove the stored information; [[and]]

sixth instructions for determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request; and

seventh instructions for removing the stored information in response to receiving the request in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the request to remove selected information originates from a client device of the user.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information is information stored on a server.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, whercin the request to remove stored information originates from a client device of the user.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the stored information is information stored on a server.
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the request to remove selected information originates from a client device of the user.
32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the stored information is information stored on a server.
33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, whercin the request to remove stored information originates from a client device of the user.
34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the stored information is information stored on a server.